Resolution No. 2020 of the Board of County Commissioners of La Porte County, Indiana designating secure office space in a county assembly room in County Complex in La Porte and secure office space at 8th street County offices in Michigan City for Clerk's use to conduct Early Voting in 2020 elections

WHEREAS, Indiana Code at I.C. 3-11-10-26 (a) (1) makes clear that all counties must make office space available in county buildings for County Clerks to conduct in-person, early voting starting 28 days before Election Day, and

WHEREAS, this Board is responsible under state code for assigning office space for the various elected officials and departments providing services to the public, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Board to make early voting as "easy and hassle free as possible" as a means of "increasing voter participation," (Resolution No. 2019-13) and

WHEREAS, it's our belief that a secure room can be set aside in the County Complex assembly room in La Porte for early voting that is secure and easily accessible by the voting public without having to go through security or surrender one's cell phone, and

WHEREAS, the impending construction/renovation of the Michigan City Courthouse with move-outs of various county departments beginning April 1st makes it imperative that a suitable county office be secured in Michigan City to allow early voting there, and

WHEREAS, space is available in the county's 8th street office building in Michigan City that will not require voters to go through a security checkpoint or surrender their cell phone, and

WHEREAS, we have been advised by the county's Facilities Director that both locations (County Complex meeting room in La Porte and the 8th Street offices in Michigan City) can provide suitable, accessible office space for the Clerk's office to conduct early voting,

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. Consistent with our responsibilities under I.C. 3-11-10-26 (a) (1) to provide the County Clerk with suitable space to permit early voting commencing 28 days before Primary Election Day which is May 5, 2020, we hereby authorize and direct our Facilities Director to make provision for a secure office space in both the County Complex Assembly room in La Porte and at the county's 8th Street offices for Early Voting in 2020.
- 2. We intend to provide an executed copy of this resolution to both the County Clerk and to the Election Board to advise that we have fulfilled our responsibility under Indiana Code to provide suitable locations for early voting in county government buildings in both cities.
- 3. We shall also make widely known through various media outlets that Early Voting will be available in both locations without voters having to go through security or surrendering their cell phones so that exercise of this most basis franchise the right to vote can be done swiftly and easily in hassle-free fashion.

Resolved this 4th day of March, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LA PQRTE COUNTY, INDIANA

Attest: